

The Buyout

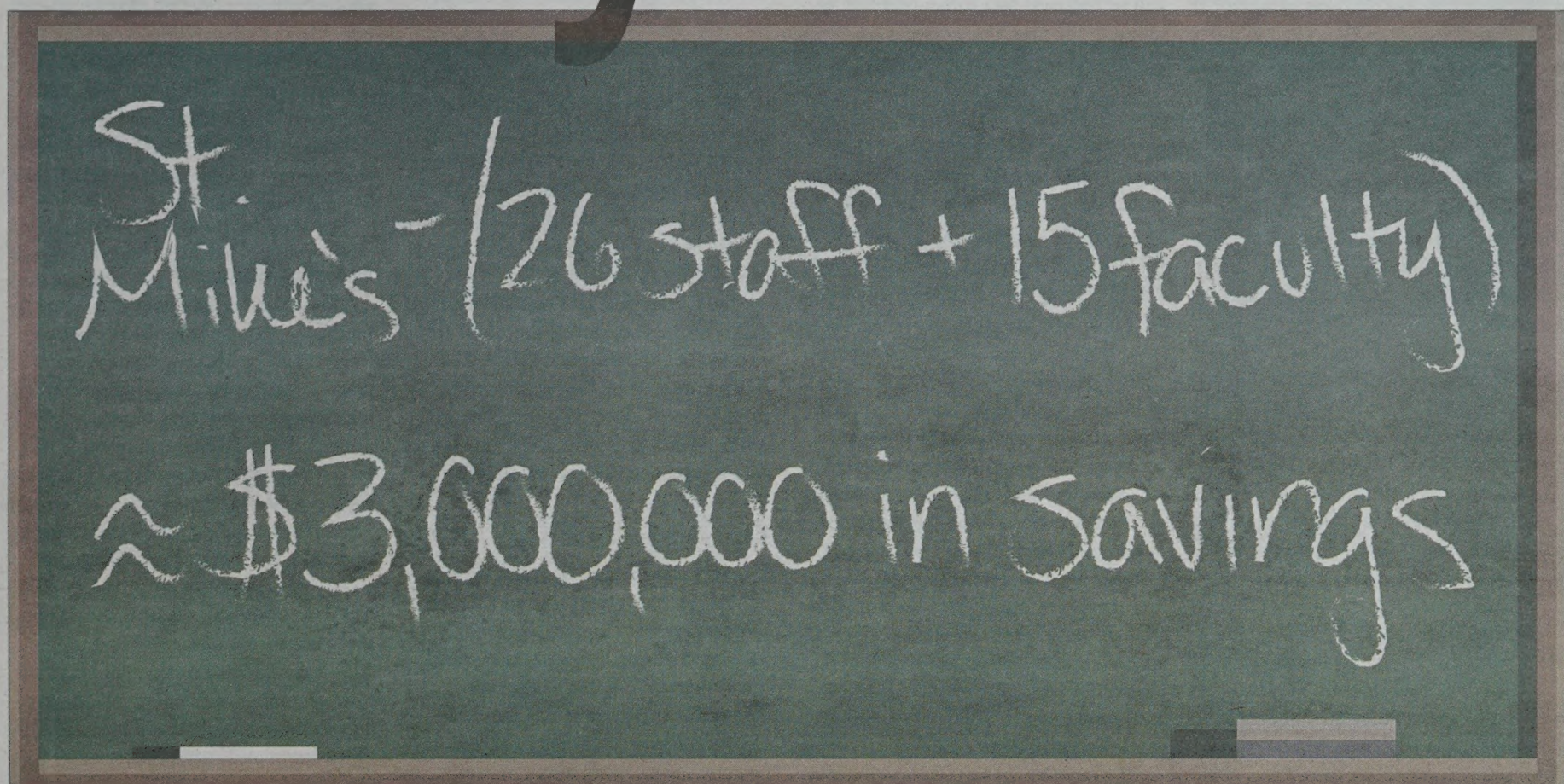


ILLUSTRATION BY LIAM RADEMACHER AND ANGELA MCPARLAND

41 take voluntary separation packages: How does this add up for the future?

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LSC changes

LSC changes drop Experiential Learning and offer the option to waive one class.

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On scale for entry?

This is what we know so far about a party in the 300's that allegedly weighed students upon entry.

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Spring break 2017

Service trips and last-minute trips - how did St. Mike's students spend their spring break?

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Curriculum changes implemented, more to follow

Allie Brown
Staff Writer

Planning for a new curriculum has been underway for months. On March 7, St. Michael's students received an email from Dean Jeffrey Ayres stating that the Liberal Studies Curriculum had been revised under the recommendation of the Curriculum and Educational Planning Committee (CEPC).

"These new changes are temporary and will be followed by a full curriculum revision in the next year or two," said Karen Talentino, vice president for academic affairs. Under the recent revision current first years, sophomores and juniors will no longer be required to fulfill the experiential learning requirement. They may also receive a waiver for any one of the LSC courses except for First Year Seminar, the first semester of philosophy, the first semester of religious studies or the first semester of foreign language.

"I knew it was coming, but I wasn't super thrilled about the fact they didn't give us notice. I took my science LSC in the fall and that's the one I would have gotten rid of," Caitlin D'Amore, 18. "I think it's useful for people who are taking bio classes or chem classes and don't have a lot of wiggle room in their schedule," she continued.

The experiential learning requirement allows every student to supplement their coursework with experiences that are attractive to employers and graduate schools, even if they are not able to complete traditional experiences like internships.

Its success stories include an environmental studies and history double major interested in museum curating. She was able to design a display about water power in the industrial age for the Winooski Mill Museum during his senior year. Joan Wagner, director of community-engaged learning and coordinator of experi-

ential learning, told the Defender.

However, students found out last month in an email from Dean Jeffrey Ayres that the experiential learning requirement would be eliminated after this year. In addition, current first years, sophomores and juniors may also receive a waiver for any one of the LSC courses, except for First Year Seminar, the first semester of philosophy, the first semester of religious studies or the first semester of foreign language.

These new changes are temporary and will be followed by a full curriculum revision in the next year or two, said Karen Talentino, vice president for academic affairs. "I knew it was coming, but I wasn't super thrilled about the fact they didn't give us notice. I took my science LSC in the fall and that's the one I would have gotten rid of," said Caitlin D'Amore 18. "I think it's useful for people who are taking bio classes or chem classes and don't have a lot of wiggle room in their schedule."

The Reasoning

"The main purpose was educational, but a secondary and equally important one was to try to save some resources, save some money," Talentino said of the decision to allow students to waive one LSC requirement. "What we're trying to shoot for is to develop a sized curriculum that is correlated with the size of the student body," she said. Adjunct faculty are paid by the course, and reducing the number of LSC courses offered, which are often taught by adjunct faculty, will cut costs, said Talentino.

The experiential learning requirement also strained the college's resources. David Barrowclough, assistant dean and registrar, said that because the experiential learning requirement wasn't related to a specific course, he and the staff would have to print out every student's course evaluation and check them by hand. "The more time I'm held up pro-

cessing program evaluations looking for experiential learning, that's time I'm not meeting with students," he said. With extra time he has next semester, he plans to do more outreach and graduation planning with students.

Curriculum Changes

"The LSC's we currently have, aside from the first year seminar, is entirely a distribution model, which means it does not matter when in your college career you take these different classes," said Patrick Walsh, associate professor of economics and member of the Curriculum and Educational Policy Committee (CEPC). There are two potential models in development, and toward a core model, Walsh said. He also mentioned, "Depending on how you present the class and grade the assignments it could be way too easy for the seniors or way too hard for the freshmen."

The faculty will vote this week on which of the two models should be developed in a full proposal by the CEPC. If it is approved by the Faculty Assembly in May it will move on to the Board of Trustees. As of now, there is not a set date for the new LSC to go into effect.

Experiential Learning

According to the National Survey of Student Engagement, Saint Michael's students are more active in experiential learning than some similar college and universities, said Wagner, who coordinates the survey at Saint Michael's. "Many students are doing two or more (experiences). That's where we really distinguish ourselves," she continued.

It is not yet clear how experiential learning will be incorporated into the new LSC. Talentino said departments and majors might set individual requirements for experiential learning. However, the faculty decided to remove the experiential learning from the LSC not

because it wasn't valuable, but because they wanted to improve student experiences.

"It wasn't embedding that the way we wanted. At least for some students, it became a check box, rather than an integral part of their education," said Walsh. In the future Saint Michael's may offer new ways of recognizing experiential learning. Talentino said that academic affairs is looking into awarding badges and certificates. Kellie Campbell, associate director of Information Technology, who is helping academic affairs in the early stages of researching badges and certificate programs said, "that badges and certificates can help demonstrate to employers that students are gaining these skills that will apply to (their) profession through more experience on the student life and residential side."

Moving Forward

This past Friday, the faculty voted to hold a vote on the two different structures of LSC's. Their next vote takes place at the faculty assembly in May. If the changes to the curriculum are approved, the new LSC requirements will be put into effect for students entering in this upcoming fall semester.

To turn around and present a curriculum in a few weeks the CEPC has been collecting input from faculty members. The committee will be using ideas from that to write the new curriculum.

"We have gotten a number of proposals from a number of different faculty members," said Walsh. "We will be taking all of the input and suggestions and informal proposals we have been receiving and find the commonalities of those things. We want to take that content and fit them into the structure that was voted on." ●

The Defender

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Rumors about body shaming break the scale

By Kelsey Bode & Madeline Hughes

Late Saturday night and early Sunday morning, a series of events unfolded that led to numerous rumors on campus of students not allowing fellow classmates into a party because of their weight.

The chain of events began in townhouse 311 when the homeowners were asked by Lauren Cuculino, '17, a 300s Apartment Community Advisor (ACA), to quiet down and stop admitting people into their party because they had reached capacity. Townhouses are not permitted by the college to have more than 45 people present at a gathering.

"Saturday night, we were in 311, we were helping Shandon bounce her party," said Andrew Thurston, '17. Once told to shut down the party, Thurston stopped letting people into the townhouse and was helping the residents to get people out, according to Shandon Kelleher, '17, resident of townhouse 311. Eventually, Thurston went on a bathroom break.

"I turned round, saw [a scale], and thought that it was just something to do," said Thurston. "We brought it down to the entry way and were just jumping on it. There was really no point other than that to have us all jump on a scale. There was no ill intention behind it."

According to Thurston, between four and five other males and three females were the only individuals involved in stepping on the scale.

"Then someone said at one point 'are they weighing people to get in?'" Kelleher, said, recounting the events. "And I was like absolutely not and took it away. I put it away under the chair I was sitting

on. Then continued to not let anyone in because we had not been letting anyone in anyway."

Public safety responded to the 300s because of multiple complaints, including a physical assault. "The people actually out in the 300's saw something that warranted the officers and residential life staff to look into a situation," said Douglas Babcock, director of public safety.

Class Facebook pages at St. Michael's have been buzzing with discussion over what, exactly, was happening with the scale. Allegations that female students were being admitted by weight into the party have sparked tense social media posts regarding body shaming, but the vast majority of Facebook accusations were not corroborated by those interviewed by The Defender.

The Defender has yet to speak to anyone who stepped on the scale as a price of admission or was asked to leave because of their weight.

"There's obviously a lot of pressure in our society especially for women to look a certain way or to present themselves in a specific way," said Micaele Sullivan, director for the center of women and gender. "We talk about body image all the time in the media and stuff like that, when you hear stories like this I think about the social pressure that students often face in college. To be presented with a situation where you're asked to kind of put yourself on a scale, I would hope that people would see how incredibly problematic that would be and would call people out on that. I'm not sure what happened, but were just a lot

of red flags being raised when I heard this story."

A prominent allegation on Facebook targeted the lacrosse team as having been proponents of weighing female students to enter the party, claiming that these events transpired at the "lacrosse house." There is no "lacrosse townhouse," according to Thurston and Kelleher.

"So many people have written on Facebook. I'm not taking away from what they are saying about we as a society have a problem with body shaming women," Kelleher said. "Looking back on the entire thing it was an isolated incident. We are three girls and a fish who would never do that."

The events of Saturday night are still an ongoing investigation according to public safety.

No bias report had been filed with the bias response team by a student about these events as of Tuesday morning. However, the bias response team decided on Monday that this was a bias incident and needed to be investigated according to Kerri Leach, assistant dean of students.

A bias report was released on Tuesday asking for information about these events. A male witness and a male injured in the events of Saturday night have come forward, according to Leach.

Its being investigated currently," Leach said.

"It's possibly the perception that it was a joke," Leach said. "Not a joke. We're not going to take it as a joke. We're on it, we want to be transparent about this."

"I don't believe we have identified every person involved in the situation," Babcock said. "Related to this incident, was a report of a physical assault, because there was a physical assault and there was something related to gender bias."

Stay tuned for an online update as the story develops at defender.smcvt.edu

What we know:

People were being asked to leave the party at townhouse 311 after noise and drinking complaints.

Public Safety responded to an alleged fight in the 300s.

There is no lacrosse house, despite allegations that these events occurred at "the lacrosse house."

No student complaint was filed with the bias response team as of Tuesday morning.

The bias response team has designated this as a bias incident.

What we don't know:

If anyone was denied access to the party because of their weight or asked to get on a scale as a means of entry.

If you were involved with the incidents at townhouse 311 that night, or the alleged fight

The Defender would like to hear from you. Please email Kelsey Bode at kbode@mail.smcvt.edu and/or Madeline Hughes at mhughes3@mail.smcvt.edu.

The Arsonists light up the McCarthy Arts Center main stage

By Shannon Wilson
Staff Writer

Biedermann, played by Patrick Cornacchio '18, believes he has everything under control in spite of the firefighters warnings.



The dangers of being a bystander is told through Max Frisch's explosive comedy "The Arsonists." The St. Michael's College theatre took us back in time to the early 1950's, post World War II through the story of Biedermann, a man who treats his workers poorly at his hair serum business. And, to ease his guilt, he allows two men to stay in his attic. The men, of course, are the arsonists raising havoc in the city. Despite all the signs that point toward danger, Biedermann ignores them, hoping that they will leave him, but ultimately leading to his own demise.

Despite the timing of what is going on in our world right now, Peter Harrigan, the director and costume designer of the production, said that they had been planning on doing the show since before the election. "We try to have a variety of different genres and time periods," Harrigan said, "I like the fact that this particular play has this duality to it where it has humor, but it is about something very serious."

SEE ARSONISTS p. 6

PHOTO BY ANGELA MCPARLAND

Campus vulnerable to online phishing scams

By Madeline Clark
Staff Writer

Mac Robson, '18, logged onto his school email just like any other day. He skimmed through the headers as per routine, and opened those of the most immediate importance. What was not usual was the enticing job offer to work for an art collector and earn \$250 a week, working only one hour per day. Tempted by the prospect of generous pay and short hours, Robson began corresponding with the St. Michael's "alum" turned art curator. Inadvertently, Robson fell prey to a phishing scam.

"They tricked me by putting the SMC logo on it," Robson said. "I figured it was fake when they started asking for banking info after they promised to pay in cash."

Each day at St. Michael's College thousands of spam emails assail the @smcvt.edu domain. In fact, according to the office of Information Technology, 70 percent of the mail that enters the system is spam. For the most part, firewalls keep junk mail out of inboxes for the college community - February 5 alone, the server for faculty accounts blocked some 15,000 unwelcome emails - However, from time to time, malicious messages slip through the cracks and make their way into the accounts of the college's faculty and students.

March 28, Erik Lightbody, the assistant director of technology services, and Douglas Babcock, the director of public safety, held the third Digital Danger

information session of the academic year. The presentation covered the top ten online and identity theft phishing cons. The swindles ranged from fake job scams, to bogus tech support pop-ups, persuasive banking and debt collection messages to phone number spoofing. However, it seemed the real problem, was awareness and promotion of Internet safety.

"I don't go two weeks without having some student with a compromised account," Lightbody told The Defender. "We held two of these events in October and have only had yourself and one other student join us."

The faculty and students' low attendance at the event frustrated Lightbody. "It's frustrating because it's difficult to get the word out and to get the students to be receptive to these threats. I don't know if the kids don't care or if they don't understand."

Since The Defender attended the Digital Danger information session three more students and one faculty member became victims of another email scam. Each time a member of the college community is caught in the snare of a scammer Lightbody must email them to inform them of the severity of compromised accounts.

"I explain to them that it's not just your email account they want," he informs them, "how they [scammers] take that information and try to access your other accounts." Lightbody noted that students are always shocked by the gravity of these scams.

Babcock chimed in, commenting that, ironically, the very screens on which phishers' lures snag students and faculty

prevent these members of our college community from having meaningful face-to-face conversations about safe practices on the web.

"We can make students and faculty change their passwords, or hold events like this, but the weakest link is you. It only takes one time, one click, to hand over personal accounts," Lightbody said. "Education, then, is the best solution."

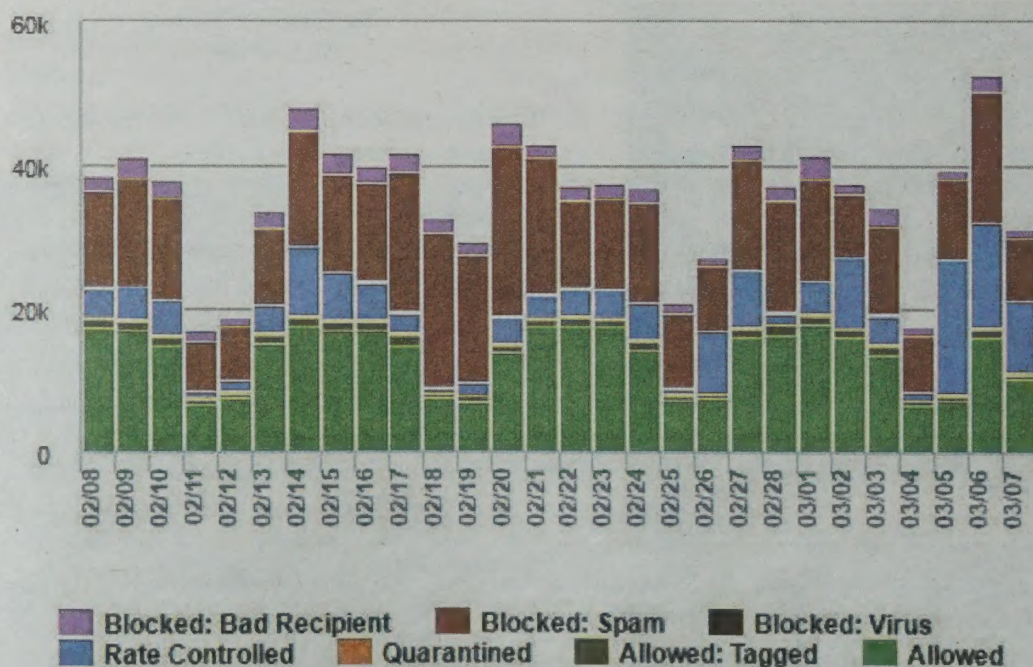
While the Digital Danger information session was the last of its kind for the semester, the office of Information and Technology is open Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. and Friday 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

As Lightbody said, "if people feel more comfortable to come and talk to IT about this issue on an individual basis, than at an information session, they can come to the office with questions during normal business hours." ●

ILLUSTRATION BY LIAM RADEMACHER

Daily Mail Statistics [inbound]

Help



Breakdown of daily email traffic to the SMC server

Courtesy of the I.T. Department

The graph at left illustrates the college's daily email intake and how the I.T. department handles it.

Allowed: regular mail that gets delivered

Allowed; Tagged: mail that looks a little sketchy, so we add "possible scam—don't give out your credentials" to the subject line

Rate Controlled: lots of mail coming from/to the same person, so our system automatically slows down the delivery of these messages just in case they are spam

Blocked; <reason>: messages that are blocked, either because they are **spam**, have **viruses** attached to them or are sent to **invalid** addresses.

Reporting critical in the wake of sexual assault

By **Abi Bowie**
Arts Editor

On Tuesday, March 28, an email was sent to students warning of a sexual assault that occurred over the weekend. In any case on campus, the Public Safety Department weighs the severity of the situation and the risk to the public's safety.

The college decides whether to alert the community based on the threat to the public. There are certain protocols in place for notifying the community of such sexual assaults and other instances in compliance with the CLERY ACT. "The intent behind the notification requirement is for public safety," said

Doug Babcock, Director of Public Safety. "So the foundational consideration when making those judgement calls are, first off, it has to specifically be on campus. If it is a non college event and something happens it's not reportable."

There are two other stipulations that require a timely notification. Along with the situation taking place on campus, the severity and risk are taken into consideration. "We might get a case where a disclosure is made five months ago and this happened and I have been dealing with it and I really need to talk to someone about it now," said Babcock. "Well, five months is a long time in terms of what would be the risk to public safety and we have to think of what risk this has and if

that person is even here anymore."

Catherine Welch, assistant dean of students, administered an anonymous Campus Climate survey that asked the questions "have you experienced sexual contact without your consent since you became a student at this school?" and "did you use the formal procedures available at your school to report the incident?" Of the participants of the survey, 13% (106) answered yes to having non consensual sexual contact, however only .05% (5) reported it to the proper authorities.

"I know there have been other incidences and the students for a variety of reasons have chosen not to come forward and that's okay," Welch said. "Oftentimes

if a student comes forward and they know who the other student is, we are going to work with those other students to resolve the situation confidentially."

Welch continued, saying, "the message we try to send again is that this can have such an impact on people's lives and we at St. Mike's are systems of support that give students a variety of different avenues." These different support systems include both on and off campus support; on campus support being Bergeron Wellness Center or through campus ministry.

There are multiple ways to report and receive support for a sexual assault in our community at St. Michael's College. For more information, check the infographic on page 17. ●

Onion peels open the heart of the community

By **Matthew Fournaris**
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again! St. Michael's College unveiled its 2017 issue of the Onion River Review. This was followed by a release party on April 5th with nearly 100 guests.

Every year, the Onion River Review

showcases its best works of poetry, prose and visual arts. It is committed to publishing the best work of students, faculty, staff, alumni and the greater St. Michael's community.

"I love the idea of underground artists who may not be art majors at St. Mike's having a platform to show their work," Emma Gilfix, '17, said.

However, it is no easy task getting published in the Onion. With nearly 300 submissions this year, the editors had their hands full trying to finalize the issue. Each submission is read anonymously by each editor, guaranteeing each piece is read more than once.

"Being published in the Onion definitely says a lot about the quality of your work," core editor Lily Gardner '17 said.

This year's edition of the Onion features artists from the Burlington area, as well as Montreal.

The Onion gives people a voice, as well as a place to express

themselves and how they are feeling. This was proven when an elderly woman in the community by the name of Pierrette Roy read aloud her poem "A Fifty-Mile Hike to See My Gal" during the release party. The Onion has been a tradition in Roy's household, with her son contributing work while attending St. Michael's. Roy suffered from a stroke, and she explained to the crowd how through her writing she can express her struggles. She believes it has been her most effective form of therapy throughout her recovery.

2017 has been a politically charged year both on and off St. Michael's campus. Topics such as women's rights, Black Lives Matter, and conflicts in Syria are all touched upon in various art forms throughout the Onion.

"There have definitely been more political submissions this year than ever before," Gardner said. "It reflects the strong political energy that has been present throughout the year."

Sadly, the St. Michael's community mourned the loss of four of its members

this past year. This year's issue of the Onion reflects upon these tragedies through multiple poems, drawings, and stories.

Professor Marquess commemorated Father Michael through a poem he wrote called, "Quis ut Deus." Peter Linn, '17,

and Emma Gilfix, '17, honored their late friend and roommate, Jerry Collins, through writing and art.

"People needed to hear a lighter part of Jerry," Jerry's roommate Peter Linn said. "I wanted to end my piece with a story about Jerry's character, because that's what we should focus on instead of what happened."

Linn's piece

about Jerry, "Too Weird to Live, Too Rare to Die" is the second piece of writing he has gotten published by the Onion. His motivation for the title behind this piece reflects a quote from one of Jerry's favorite movies, "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas."

If you want your voice to be heard at St. Michael's, the Onion has begun accepting submissions for its 2018 issue. ●

"There have definitely been more political submissions this year than ever before. It reflects the strong political energy that has been present throughout the year"

-Lily Gardner '17



ILLUSTRATION BY EMMA GILFIX

"In Loving Memory" by Emma Gilfix '17 was published in the Onion River Review 2017. Gilfix created this with watercolor and ink



Left: Biedermann, played by Patrick Cornacchio, '18, gives an opening dialogue to set the stage. **Bottom:** Biedermann's wife, Babette, played by Molly Lovell, '19, expresses her concerns to Biedermann after he let Sepp Schmitz, a wrestler played by Owen Freeman, '19, stay in their empty room in the attic.



PHOTOS BY ANGELA MCPARLAND



Far Left: Sean Broderick, '19, a member of the firefighter chorus, blows smoke during the opening scene. **Left:** Biedermann tries to discern Sepp's intentions after Biedermann's wife expressed concerns about Schmitz possibly being one of those arsonists she keeps hearing about in the news.

'ARSONISTS'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The name Biedermann, literally translates to "everyman." "He's supposed to represent the average person, and the idea of sort being a bystander, the average person is very capable of letting awful things happen if they're not careful," said Pat Cornacchio, '18, who has participated in shows throughout his time at the college. "There's a lot of political turmoil and this show is just about wherever you stand, don't be a bystander," he said.

Frisch wrote this show to depict the Nazi's of World War II as the arsonists in the show, and Biedermann is supposed to represent all of the countries who stood by until it was too late and the Holocaust began.

The actual arsonists, Schmitz, played by Owen Freeman, '19, and Willi, played by Caleb Roman, '20, represent what bystanders are too afraid to stand up to. Throughout the show, both characters make references to Biedermann that they are planning to burn down his home. Biedermann

even helps Willi look for a detonator in his attic after both Schmitz and Willi filled the attic with tanks of gasoline. Overlooking these references, Biedermann ends up giving them the match with which they use to burn down the house.

It is a very interactive show as well. The show features a chorus of firemen who watch the story unfold with the audience, while talking both to the audience as well as interacting with the characters on stage. "I liked the idea of the chorus because they add another theatrical layer that was really kinda fun," Harrigan said. Babette, Biedermann's wife, played by Molly Lovell, '19, also speaks directly to the audience and one character named "A PhD," played by Josef Kranz, '18, even joins the audience at one point.

This show may now be over, however, but the senior theater majors are putting together their final shows at St. Michael's. ⑩

Fallout from the buyout: campus grapples with imminent departures

By Nathan Terry and Lance Reynolds
News and Sports Editors

Significant changes are on the campus horizon as long-time faculty and staff members will be leaving the college with voluntary separation packages (VSPs), beginning June 1.

Ninety staff members and 74 faculty members were offered packages in December, and they had to decide mid-January whether they were going to leave or continue their employment at St. Michael's, according to Mike New, vice president of human resources.

Of the 164 VSPs offered, a total of 41 faculty and staff members have accepted. Twelve staff employees and nine faculty members will be leaving St. Michael's in June – at the conclusion of this spring semester – while 14 staff and six faculty members will be departing in June of 2018, New said.

"We call the program 'The Combo 70', and what that meant is that your age and your service with the College had to add up to at least 70," New said. "For example, if you're 50 years old and you've been here for 20 years you're eligible for the program."

The VSPs, a common type of buyout, serve as one of St. Michael's solutions to the budget deficit that the college is currently dealing with. According to New, the packages will be saving the college approximately \$3 million, which will go a long way in addressing the deficit.

"We certainly had to reduce expenses and our biggest expense as a college is the people," New said.

Psychology Professor Jeff Adams, who has worked at St. Michael's for 33 years, is accepting the package and retiring at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year. Adams initially planned on retiring after next year, but decided to retire a year early. "I will miss the thoughtful and insightful questions from my classes," Adams said.

This is the first time that St. Michael's has offered packages during a time that the school has been in midst of a deficit. However, President Neuhauser has been thinking about the VSP process for the past couple of years, Dean of the College Jeffrey Ayres said.

"It's been a process of getting the message across that we should anticipate that there are going to be some-

what fewer students here," said Ayres. "So, we were going to have to have the right number of faculty to match with that. I think the budget deficit is a contributing factor, but it wasn't the sole. This was being thought about years earlier."

St. Michael's is expected to see smaller incoming freshmen classes within the next couple of years, beginning in the fall 2017 semester, Ayres said.

"Everybody is really sad to see certain professors go. It's definitely going to be difficult to imagine different departments affected by it," said Sophie Adams, '18, president of the Student Association. "With that being said,

filling in for another professor who is currently on sabbatical. Ken Kretzer, who has worked as the school plumber for the past 26 years, is taking the buyout and is planning on still doing some part time work in the future. Kretzer had a daughter graduate from St. Michael's, and said the school has been a big part of his life.

There was a smaller, less-generous VSP offered to faculty and staff a couple years ago, but the one offered in December garnered a lot of attention and interest. VSPs are being offered at colleges and universities all around the country, specifically at private tuition-driven, liberal arts colleges, according to Ayres.

“

"We certainly had to reduce expenses and our biggest expense as a college is the people."

-Mike New

Vice President, Human Resources and Administrative Services

St. Michael's has a history and after this year will have a continued history of bouncing back when difficult situations arise."

As staff and faculty begin to leave at year's end, departments across campus are strategizing how they will cope.

Director of the Library John Payne said he envisions the library having to adapt new ways of business in the fall to accommodate the departure of three staff members who have a combined 60-plus years of service to the college.

"We're trying to expand the responsibilities of some of our student workers to see if there are some jobs that a regular staff person has done before that students who have been here two to three years and have had the right training could take on," Payne said.

Biology Professor Denise Martin is another one of the 15 professors who has accepted the VSP. Having been at St. Michael's for 35 years, Martin said that she had planned on retiring at the end of the year and that being offered the package made the decision easy. Martin's replacement, Professor Brian Swisher, has already been working in the department this year

There were clear incentives to accepting the VSP for faculty and staff members who are either at retirement age, considering retiring, or wanting to move on to another job. Those offered the package had the option of picking between two dates for their departure--June of '17 or June of '18. New said.

The incentive was different – they'd receive 75 percent of their base salary if they left in June of '17 and 60 percent in '18. There was a little bit of an incentive to leave early."

The psychology department will be seeing three professors leave the department with packages. Joining Professor Adams are Professors Susan Kuntz and David Landers. Kuntz said she will be the only one of the three who will be teaching this fall.

"[I'm] mostly going to miss the interaction with the students," Kuntz said. "[I] can't imagine a better job than talking about important things with young people. They are my inspiration; hopefully I inspire them a little. [They] make me think of things in different ways."

Kuntz said when her time at St. Michael's ends, she will be writing a

book on development and aging, and the aging process.

An additional incentive to accepting the VSP is the Emeritus College, which was set up to make those who accepted feel that they are still integral to the St. Michael's community. It will allow professors to come back to campus, give presentations, and have office space, Ayres said.

"It's a nice way of saying that we recognize how much you've given to the college, and we still want you to be a part of the college when you retire," Ayres said. "I think that was very well received."

It will be a wait-and-see process for specific departments to consider whether or not they will have to hire full-time replacements, Ayres said.

Not every professor leaving at the close of the year is taking a separation package. At least two faculty members, David Mindich of the MJD department, and Phil Yates of the math department, are leaving for positions at other universities.

"Once we see what the enrollment size is going to be like in May and what the first-year class is when we'll really be able to assess where our greatest need is for the new hires" Ayres said.

Bill Grover, who taught in the political science department for 30 years, was the only professor to end his career at St. Michael's before the spring semester when he was offered the VSP in December.

His replacement? Dean Ayres.

Ayres will be concluding his 3-year tenure as Dean of the College as of July 1 and will go back to teaching in the political science department full-time beginning of the fall 2017 semester, Ayres said.

To fill the void of the absences of the staff workers who will be leaving, St. Michael's has formed a contingent with Champlain College and Middlebury College to work together on clearing snow, and other responsibilities, New said.

"We try to do these programs. I think it's a humane thing to do," New said. "I think most of people who are taking it are happy about taking it. Many of them were ready to make a change or to retire." ●

With additional reporting from Sarah Iandoli.

Student crashes car, alcohol a factor

By Madeline Hughes
Online Executive Editor

Around 1:07 a.m. Tuesday, April 4, St. Michael's student, Evan Harwood, '17, crashed into a utilities poll at the corner

of College Parkway and Lime Kiln Road right outside of Founder's Hall. Alcohol seemed to be a factor according to the police report.

Numerous authorities were called to the scene including Colchester police,

St. Michael's College public safety and St. Michael's fire and rescue. Fairpoint Communications was also called to the scene to secure the utilities lines that came down resulting from the crash.

The intersection was closed to traffic

until the early morning commute. Harwood was the only person transported to the hospital with injuries from the crash, but was released according to the police report. ●

Fishbowl panel: moderating discussion between campus liberals and conservatives

By Aaron Kalat
Staff Writer

Following a heavily polarized political season, roughly 50 students gathered April 6 for an event facilitated to help inspire discussion between students on campus. "The Fish Bowl: A dialogue around polarizing issues" was designed to help inspire discussion between liberal and conservative leaning students on campus in light of recent events.

St. Michael's College has been the setting of numerous hate driven acts including the scribbling of "Make America White Again" on posters promoting migrant justice, the theft of a Black Lives Matter flag from the Durick Library, and countless other acts of hateful vandalism.

"We want this event to be a starting point for conversation and listening," said Cody Putnam, '17, one of the event's designers and coordinators with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. "We are really stressing the importance of listening to each other's views and opinions."

The Fish Bowl was set up in a round table format, in which one group of students was brought in to discuss three questions:

1. What is the difference between the Black Lives Matter, All Lives Matter, and Blue Lives Matter Movement?
2. What's your understanding of the idea of white privilege? How do you think it affects other people?
3. In what ways does immigration impact life inside and outside of

America?

Both groups had a chance to respond to the each question while the group from the opposing side of the political spectrum listened.

The two groups then convened at the table under the direction and supervision of Dr. Kristin Novotny, a professional moderator and associate professor at Champlain College. Participants were encouraged to engage one another with questions and issues with what they had heard during the separate discussions.

Novotny closed the event by discussing the "The Three Modes of Communication."

"What we commonly see from our mainstream media is debate. Debate focuses on finding

weakness in your opponent's argument, with little listening or understanding. Tonight we moved towards discussion and deliberation. By listening to each other's differing ideas, hopefully we can move towards

common understanding of the issues at hand." said Novotny in her closing remarks.

In the eyes of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, The Fish Bowl was not a solution, but rather a jumping off point for discussion. Manuela Yeboah, '17, secretary of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee called the event a "starting point to fight the lack of conversation" during her opening remarks for the event.

In the eyes of many,

the event was just that, a beginning of discussion between two otherwise polarized campus populations. Others, including one of the participants in the discussion, Conor Disher, '17, weren't so convinced of the event's effectiveness.

When asked if the event would help to

"It isn't the moderate-conservatism that is fostering hate on this campus, it is the new 'Trump-servative' group we have seen grow out of our political process."

-Conor Disher, '17

spark future discussions about political issues on campus, Disher responded with a stark "No."

The self described "anarchist" represented the far-left view in The Fish Bowl, and he claimed "that the

whole event felt like an 'agree-fest.'"

"The liberals and moderate-conservatives were brought together tonight, but there is a far-right student population that was too afraid to show their face at this event. It isn't the moderate-conservatism that is fostering hate on this campus, it is the new 'Trump-servative' group we have seen grow out of our political process," insisted Disher.

Only time will tell if The Fish Bowl will inspire conversation on campus. Students and community members must be the driving force in eliminating hate and injustice, while also remaining accepting of differing political views. ●

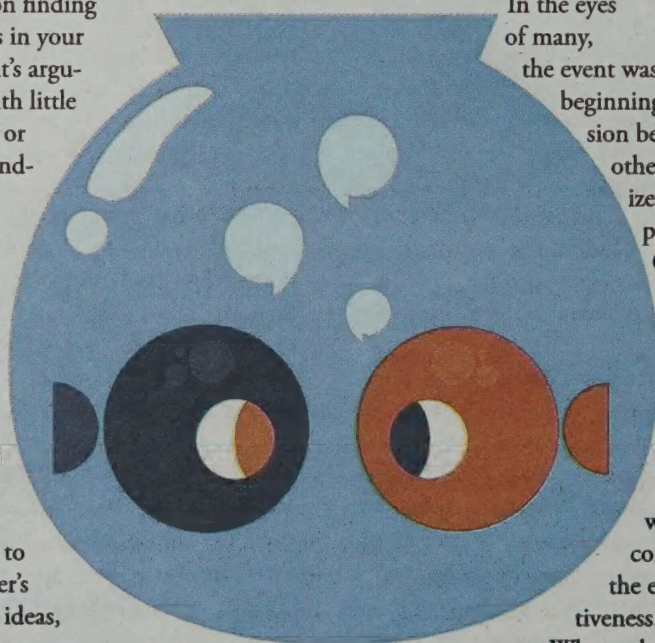


ILLUSTRATION BY LIAM RADEMACHER

Remembering Craig Jensen

By Elisabeth O'Donnell
Features & Social Media Editor

Craig Jensen, a professor of mathematics at St. Michael's College who strove to help students understand challenging concepts in engaging ways, and built a quirky, friendly atmosphere into his classrooms, died on Monday, March 13, 2017. He was 47 years old.

The Jensen family moved to Shelburne in 2015 after their home was destroyed in Hurricane Katrina. Craig Jensen's wife, Elizabeth, a psychiatrist had accepted a job at the University of Vermont and Craig soon accepted position at St. Michael's.

"From the very beginning he was an unexpected asset," said Jo Ellis-Monaghan, chair of the mathematics department. "The level of his expertise showed immediately in his teaching and programmatic development."

Although Jensen was not at St. Michael's for long, his vibrant optimism and energy around mathematics' stereotype as a dry and difficult subject made an impression on math and non-math students alike.

"He was never not smiling," said Meghan Smith, '19, who was in Jensen's Calculus 1 class in the fall of 2015. "What I remember most about his class was that he would always bring in some sort of fun element to help us understand the material, like a cartoon for example. He also really tried to get us out in the field to apply what we were learning, which was very interactive," Smith said.

Jensen worked to connect students' other studies to all of his classes. For example, he redesigned the curriculum of the Elements of Calculus course for biology and business students to make it Microsoft Excel based, as those students will need to use the software throughout their academic and professional careers. "He would take van loads of kids in his bio-calculus class [out into the field] because he felt like they really needed to see how the math mattered in the context of their own first loves," Ellis-Monaghan said.

"Math should be presented as being fun, and applicable to a wide variety of disciplines," Jensen wrote in his biography in the St. Michael's faculty directory. He extended this goal to students outside of his classroom as well with his weekly Math & Cookies event, in which he invited all students to get together each Thursday to play games and snack while practicing mathematics.

"He would haul this coffee maker up to the Farrell Room every Thursday and he thought highly enough of his students



Top left: Jensen and daughter, Genevieve, at the Wildlife Center in Folsom, La. in 2014 (Courtesy of Elizabeth Jensen). **Middle:** Jensen in his office in 2015 (Defneder file photo). **Top right:** Jensen and daughter, Eva, Father's Day 2015 (courtesy of Elizabeth Jensen). **Bottom:** Jensen's Calculus 1 class on a field trip measuring stream flow to estimate the area of Lake Champlain (courtesy of the Mathematics Department).

that he bought really high-end, Tate's cookies for it," Ellis-Monaghan recalled with a smile.

A California native, Jensen lived in many different parts of the United States, moving from California to Pennsylvania and New Mexico throughout elementary school, then attended high school in Utah. Math was his forte from the start. He graduated high school as a Sterling Math Scholar, which recognizes high school seniors in the State of Utah for their pursuit of excellence in scholarship, leadership and citizenship, according to the award's website.

Jensen remained in Utah for his undergraduate education, studying mathematics and philosophy at the University of Utah. He continued pursuing his love for math and exploration of the USA at the University of Wisconsin and Cornell University, receiving his master's and Ph.D. in mathematics.

After marrying on May 25, 2002, the Jensens moved to Louisiana where he became a tenured professor of mathematics and director of the undergraduate program at New Orleans University. Together they had three daughters Eva, 11, Liberty, 6 and Genevieve, 3. After Hurricane Katrina devastated the region, the Jensens were homeless for about 16 months, living with relatives and friends, until Elizabeth was offered the job at UVM.

"I was very fortunate to get the position [at St. Michael's] when I did," Jensen told The Defender in Oct. 2015.

"I think the fact that he wanted to be called Craig speaks to who he was as a person. He wanted his students to feel comfortable around him, to ask questions whenever they needed help," said Ashling O'Leary, a junior mathematics major, in an email while studying abroad in Florence, Italy.

"Craig genuinely loved math--it was fun to him--and his specialty was in game theory, among other subjects. He was humble about his brilliance," said Rebecca Rouleau, '18. "He was always trying to bring everyone together to play a game of cards, especially Hearts, which was his favorite," said Rouleau.

"I'm sad we won't get to learn from him," said Mariah Boudreau, '19.

Jensen was not only a respected colleague and professor, but also a devoted father to his daughters, according to his wife, colleagues and students. On his personal website, Jensen's wrote that his favorite thing to do for fun was to hang out with his wife Elizabeth and their three daughters, while his least favorite was to clean the refrigerator.

"He was a big time dad," Ellis-Monaghan said. "He spent a lot of time with his kids. He called Genevieve 'Jellybean,' and he had pictures of their stuff slathered all over his office."

"He like to build things with them. He liked playing with magnet blocks with Genevieve," Elizabeth said.

Elizabeth attended a memorial prayer service for her husband in the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel on March 28, accompanied by Genevieve and her mother-in-law Joanne Jensen. Genevieve appears to take after her father's captivating energy, innocently chatting with her mother, grandmother and a Barbie doll in the front row of the chapel as Jensen's colleagues and students filed in for the service.

"He liked to play video games. He liked decaf coffee black. He roasted and ground his own coffee," added Elizabeth.

"He was really interesting because he had all of these weird hobbies. He was kind of compulsive about coffee, he liked really high-end coffee. He was a huge Tanith Lee fan and even had original

"He was what you hope for when you bring somebody into the St. Mike's community: somebody kind, somebody engaged with students, somebody very professional and hard-working—and fun."

**-Jo Ellis-Monaghan
Chair of the Mathematics
Department**

artwork from her novels up in his office. He was a serious gamer, he used to run a gaming club at his home on Fridays," Ellis-Monaghan said.

Tanith Lee was not the only art in his office. "His office was more distinctive in the Math Department hallway because it had a Zombie poster on it, and I believe it said something along the lines of 'Warning, exams are closer than they appear,'" Boudreau said.

Among other things, Jensen will be remembered for his infectious laugh, attentiveness to campus and family and passion for math and other more quirky hobbies.

"He just really fit in," Ellis-Monaghan said. "He was what you hope for when you bring somebody into the St. Mike's community: somebody kind, somebody engaged with students, somebody very professional and hard-working—and fun." ●

Service and fun in spring break sun:

By Jackie McLavey
Staff Writer

Spring break—for many is a dream vacation filled with soirees in the sun and sand, with a cold beverage in hand. Each year St. Michael's students eagerly flee from the end of the Vermont winter, in search of liberation before the last push of the academic year, but costs and goals often factor into the destination.

Students here join the migration of students across the country, eager to escape the wrath of academia in the month of March. According to travel agency, Orbitz, 11.3 million students, or 55 percent of all college students in the U.S., traveled over spring break in 2017. An online multiple-choice Defender-generated survey of 100 St. Michael's students indicated that 65 percent did not travel farther than their hometowns during the March recess.

Seventy-one percent of survey participants said their spring break was used to relax. Some students took the week to capitalize on socializing and partying (12 percent), while the remaining responders chose to take the time and catch up on academics, or engage in humanitarian efforts (13 percent).

Many students who did travel were fixated on gaining a memorable experience out of the anticipated week off in March. For Maddy Linden, '18, service with the MOVE program was more important than the tropical backdrop of the

small village of Los Corozos, Dominican Republic.

"I preferred to have an enriching learning experience [rather] than a relaxing, drinking, and hanging-out kind of trip," Linden said, explaining that she and a group of 12 students spent the week working beside people in the village to build a house for a family that needed one.

MOVE offers the Dominican Republic service trip annually, and students fundraise

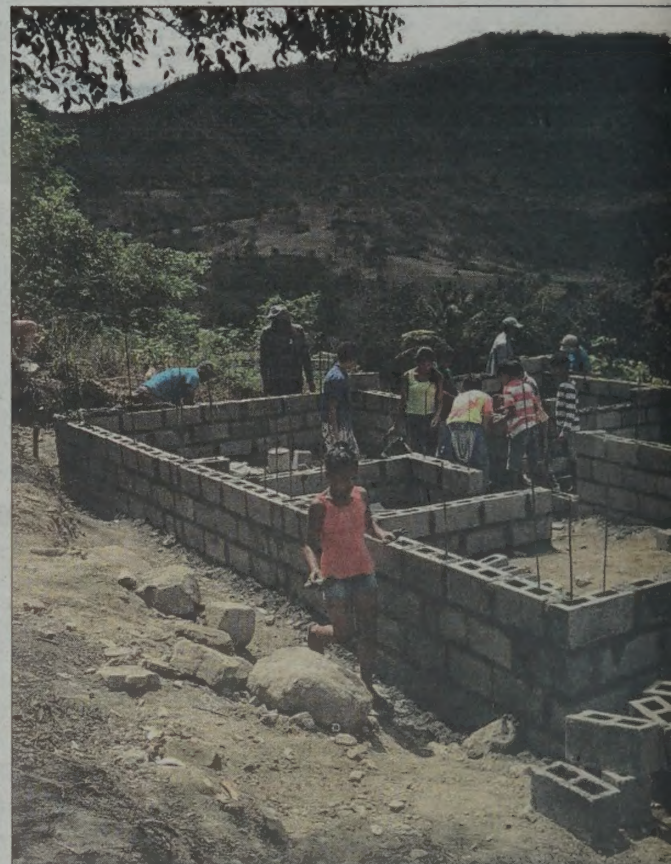


Marie Shepard, Sam Delaney and Maddy Linden with two young girls named Angelica and Ashley that live in the village of Los Corozos.

PHOTO BY MADDY LINDEN

in advance to provide resources for the construction project. The program still requires admitted students to individually fund their trip. Linden's funding stress was alleviated by her parent's contribution to the educational experience.

"Normally, with trips like spring break, I would pay for myself," Linden said. "The service helped me educationally and culturally, so they supported me going on the trip."



Students explore for more

PHOTO BY MADDY LINDEN



According to the Defender survey of 100 St. Michael's students, one in three students who traveled in March planned their trip one to three months in advance, and funding the trips in numerous different ways. One group of St. Michael's seniors managed to scrape together a budget in a mere two weeks prior to departing for an adventure on the open road.

Adam Sadowski, '17, recently returned from his second consecutive spring break

"I [originally] sold it so I had enough money to get me through the semester, but taking a portion of that and using it for the trip was something I had foreseen myself doing," Sadowski said.

Last year, Sadowski and company set their spring break sights on New Orleans, La. Within this 10-day excursion, he and his three friends made pit stops in five states, covering a total distance of 5,000 miles. In order to keep expenses to a minimum, the group stayed with friends

along the way and slept at truck stops.

This year's trip to Daytona began with a straight shot, 1,100 mile drive from the Green Mountain State of Vermont to the Sunshine State of Florida. Four students traveled in Sadowski's truck, splitting the gas costs, while another couple of friends followed in tow. Similar to the previous year's trip, they met people along the way. Sadowski said that his decision to use assets from one



PHOTO BY GEORGE DRAGONETTI

Conor Murray (left), Tom DeCrescenzo, Adam Sadowski and George Dragonetti on the mopeds that they rented to cruise around Key West, Fla.

road trip. He and his travel buddies collaborated on their itinerary for a week of whim, beginning with a road trip down to Daytona Bike Week in Florida. With such short-sighted plans, Sadowski used funds from a motorcycle he sold back in December.

set of wheels for his final college spring break was well worth the gang's "greasy" experience in Florida.

"I think [selling the bike to have] a cushion to be spontaneous was a really wise idea," Sadowski said. ●



PHOTO BY ADAM SADOWSKI

Top Center: The house that the MOVE Students were helping to build. This is what it looked like when they had to leave at the end of the week.

Bottom Center: Connor Murray walking on the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla during the Daytona Supercross on March 11.

Peace, the nonviolent way

Gandhi's message lives on through his grandson

By Maeve Power
Staff Writer

A grandson of the famous Indian peace-maker and activist Mohandas 'Mahatma' Gandhi, visited St. Michael's on March 30, to share a message of nonviolence, methods of peacemaking, and the "legacy of love" left by his late grandfather. Arun Gandhi, now 82, lived in India for two years with his grandfather when he was a teenager because his parents were concerned about his anger and reactions to discrimination in South Africa where they lived.

Traveling from his current home in Rochester, NY, Gandhi wore a tweed suit jacket and humble demeanor as he spoke to a packed room in McCarthy Arts Center Recital Hall. His soft voice requires the listener to really focus on his words, making his message that much more intentional.

He sat down with *The Defender* to discuss anger, nonviolence and inner peace at Penny Cluse Cafe in downtown Burlington the following day. Over his biscuits and gravy, Gandhi spoke of his life experience, philosophy, and why he thinks his message is relevant to the St. Michael's community.

Q: What exactly is the practice of nonviolence?

A: Nonviolence to me is a means of personal transformation. It gives me an opportunity to look at my own weaknesses and transform those weaknesses into strengths, and then progress upwards from there.

Q: Are peace and nonviolence synonymous?

A: Yes but only if we understand what peace is. Unfortunately in modern times we think of peace only in terms of absence of war, but peace actually means when we can live in harmony with each other and nature. Nonviolence is the way we can create the type of atmosphere in which peace can prevail.

Q: How has your background as a grandson of Mohandas Gandhi and a native of South Africa influenced your understanding of nonviolence as a method of achieving peace?

A: I think it influenced me very positively because I don't think I would understand this philosophy if I hadn't been so closely associated with my grandfather. My parents fully committed to carrying on his work, so I grew up in that type of an atmosphere. If I had only spent those two years with my grandfather it maybe wouldn't have made such a significant impact, but because my parents helped build on that foundation it made a very big difference.

Q: What is one lesson that your grandfather and experience with nonviolence has taught you?

A: I think one of the most important lessons is anger management. Anger causes a lot of the violence that we experience in life and if we learn how to use that powerful emotion intelligently we would be able to reduce violence very substantially.



PHOTOS BY SETH BOUDREAU, COURTESY OF ST. MICHAEL'S MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS



Arun Gandhi visited St. Michael's College to give a speech on teaching nonviolence in a violent world. He used personal anecdotes and his grandfather's teachings to inform students they too can embrace nonviolence.

Q: How do you think the idea and practice of nonviolence can be put to action by the people you have met and spoken with here at St. Michael's?

A: I hope that you all can recognize nonviolence as a means of personal transformation. To understand that although it is important to get academic knowledge, it is also important to make the effort to raise ourselves upwards, to a higher standard by transforming our weaknesses into strengths. That leads to compassion, understanding, respect and to helping others who are less fortunate than us. It leads us towards a world of harmony.

Q: Do you feel the message of your grandfather is still adhered to in modern India?

A: Well it's not there on the official level, in terms of the government. They abandoned his philosophy even before independence. But at the grassroots level the people still admire him and are influenced by his legacy. What surprises me is even the younger generation, who were born after his death, had never seen or met him but only know him from his writings, even they are so influenced by his teachings. They

have in some cases dedicated their lives to it. In the Gandhi Legacy Tour I lead to India we visit many organizations started by young people who had never seen him yet are inspired by him. So it is still alive at the grassroots level, just not on the official level.

Q: Overall, do you think a future where nonviolence is the norm is truly achievable in this lifetime?

A: I don't know whether it's achievable or not, I wouldn't speculate on that. My goal is to plant the seed. Ultimately, it is up to the people to nurture them or destroy them. I'm not fixated on the results; they take care of themselves. I must do what I have to do and if people take something worthwhile from my message, then it is for them to decide to act on it. ●



PHOTO BY
LINDSEY
GARLAND

Julia Wagner, '18, (left) with Margaret "Peggy" Citarella at Citarella's Burlington home on Tuesday. Citarella, a world war II welder, is the focus of Wagner's research project.

Real-life "Rosie the Riveter" sparks student research

By Devin Imperati
Staff Writer

It was a unique friendship and a remarkable history that sparked St. Michael's College English major, Julia Wagner, '18, to write a research project blending memoir and historical account. The spark eventually led to preserving the legacy of one of the first female World War II navy yard welders, Margaret "Peggy" Citarella. Citarella began welding in 1941 at age 21, when she realized that men's jobs paid more than women's, and that because of the war, more jobs normally exclusive to men were becoming available to women.

It was in the 1940s that Citarella entered a navy yard, approached a secretary, and asked for a job. The secretary assumed that as a woman Citarella was seeking a desk job, and because there were no secretarial positions available, she was turned away. But Citarella explained that she was a welder, and asked to speak to the supervisor. Citarella stood her ground when the supervisor repeated that no secretarial jobs were available.

"No, let me show you what I can do," Citarella said. The supervisor tested Citarella, even going so far as to having her perform welds that were largely unnecessary. She passed them all, and was hired on the spot.

"She was definitely a person who broke a lot of gender barriers during that time," Wagner said. "Welding was what she wanted to do, and she knew it, and she wanted to pursue it."

Wagner, who recorded this and other stories from Citarella's life was awarded a research grant by the office of the vice president of academic affairs (VPAA) at St. Michael's College. She will present at the Posters on The Hill in Washington D.C. on April 25 and 26.

Throughout her career at the navy yard, Citarella performed a number of different welding jobs, from repairing the masts of ships at sea to taking advantage of her small stature to patch metals in confined spaces. When the war ended, she and the other female welders who were eventually hired due to the lack of male welders available during WWII were dismissed, and though she never continued to weld professionally, her skills never left her. If she or a neighbor ever needed something welded, she would hurry over and patch it for them.

"I found out about her first in high school," Wagner said, recounting when she and Citarella first crossed paths. "She put out an advertisement, —at that point I think she was 92—asking for some help around the house. So I went and we eventually got to know each other. She was telling me these stories about her life, and she has so many amazing stories, but the one that stood out to me the most was her work in the Charleston Navy Yard during World War II."

Citarella is now 96 years old and lives in Burlington, Vermont. Her late husband, Professor Emeritus Armand "Doc" Citarella, was a Classics and Humanities

professor at St. Michael's College for more than 50 years. After Armand Citarella died, history professor George Dameron suggested to Wagner that someone ought to record Peggy Citarella's story, as no one had been able to preserve her husband's life story.

From the end of June to August of 2015, Wagner worked with Citarella to record the unusual story of the older woman's life.

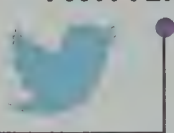
"I think we have a beautiful January-December relationship," said Citarella of Wagner. "I'm in my 90's and she's still a teenager. And we like each other very much; whenever we get together, it's always a nice experience."

"I think they have a very special relationship," said Karen Talentino, SMC Vice President for Academic Affairs. "You can tell they both really love one another."

"She's had a really big [impact on my life]," Wagner said of Citarella, "partially because I do consider her to be one of my very good friends, despite our age difference. I think that we've grown together in many ways, not only through this research, but I'd say just being able to work for her. It was something that we could kind of share our lives together, and I think it was valuable to both of us."

Wagner is currently working on the final edits for her research project in the hopes of getting it archived in Durick Library on campus. Wagner's research will also be archived in the Charleston Navy Yard. ●

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pootnestro
Dead Sea



pootnestro lowest point on Earth

keara_wagner
The Netherlands



keara_wagner The 3-day 'stroopwafel' bender exceeded expectations



leahseffen

Denmark



renee.beaulieu "it is all there, the urban pulse in the cobbled streets, the castles and bell towers, the artists, makers, and the green grass, the mothers, babies and their strollers, the hipsters and their dreams, the prince and the queen"

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Norway



renee.beaulieu the views here a dream #ohmyfjord #bergen #noway #norway

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Ecuador

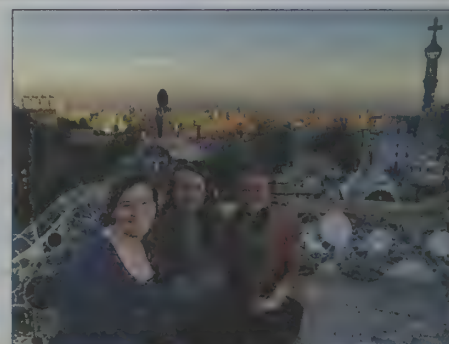


ivyluke Mama sea lion and her baby! Too cute

Spain



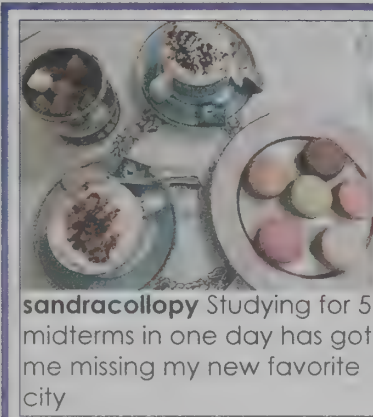
renee.beaulieu so much to do, so much to see #youllneverknowifyoudontgo #adios #mediterraneansea



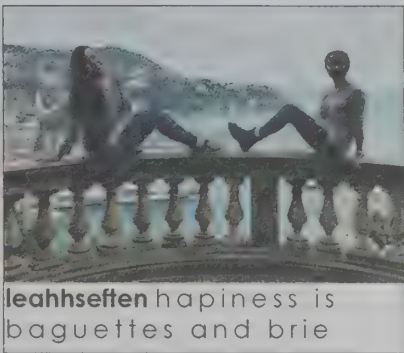
leahseffen "We're dancing in the street in Barcelona. Las Ramblas, I'll meet you, we'll dance around La Sagrada Familia, drinking Sangria" s/o to ed sheeran for releasing "Barcelona" just for us...



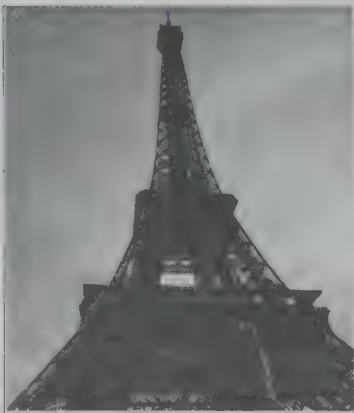
pootnestro I'm surrounded by the Himalayas everywhere I go and I almost cry everytime I think about it.



sandracollopY Studying for 5 midterms in one day has got me missing my new favorite city



leahhseften hapiness is baguettes and brie

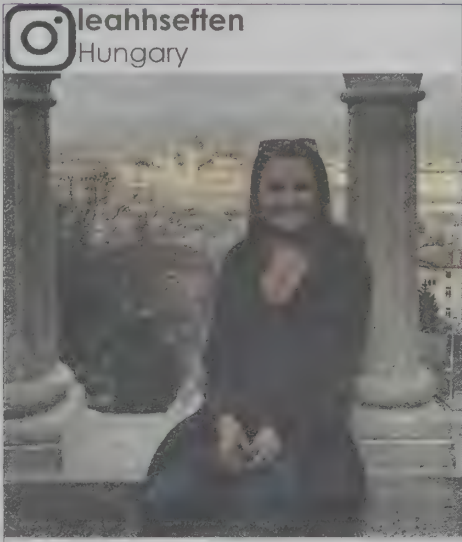


keara_wagner more crêpes please

France



sandracollopY Befriending the locals



leahhseften Home of the world's best lemonade



pootnestro Truly a Wonder of the World!!!



renee.beaulieu *doesn't shoot, just drops it low, booty poppin instead* #youknowwhatitis #TheKatnissEverdeen #IRL #punless



kerrabearr εὐδαμονία

Greece



jmor_2 book worm *egg (right)



jasondrapinski "It's just glorified walking..."



sammysid_2 Spring has sprung in Oxford



renee.beaulieu Get the London look. #rimmelondon #trashbagchic #wedontplaygames #takinglondonbystorm #ponchos #newssocksnewperspective #howcomeeverytimeyoucomearound



sammysid_2 London strong

United Kingdom



Embracing change: SMC, the buyout, & what you can do

Our front cover story of this issue of The Defender reveals that 41 faculty and staff from St. Michael's have agreed to a voluntary separation package, or as you may know it- a buyout.

Fifteen professors and twenty-six staff members who make a significant impact on our campus will be gone by the spring of 2018.

St. Michael's will lose a lot of great minds and helping hands with this voluntary separation package.

It's sad to see our community lose such integral members of it's fabric. It's also impossible not to wonder what their absence will mean for those remaining at St. Michael's for the coming years.

Those taking the separation agreement retire early with compensation and overall, the voluntary separation program will save St. Michael's \$3 million. But what will the future of St. Michael's look like without

these 41 people?

The college is beginning to and has already undergone a series of changes, and as St. Michael's evolves into it's next incarnation, we're all wondering what is coming next. Change, and perhaps a slightly different version of the school we're all familiar with, is on it's way.

The voluntary separation package will impact departments that will lose core faculty and there is a chance that certain courses may not be offered any longer. There is genuine concern that our college may suffer when these individuals leave.

So what can we, the students, alumni, faculty, and staff at St. Michael's, do?

As a community built on service and academic excellence, we need to carry on those pursuits, perhaps more than ever.

There is a lot of hope and potential in the future of St. Michael's- from professors going the extra mile and offering pop up

classes for the sake of teaching students to students on campus working to create conversation and being involved with the community through events and service.

Our community is strong, creative, thoughtful, and, more importantly in light of changes that lay ahead-- adaptable.

It's easy as students to forget that there was a St. Michael's long before we came here, and that there will be one long after we leave. And with the times come new incarnations of the college, often for the best.

As the institution that has had such an influence on our lives undergoes its own journey to its next stage, perhaps we can work to make a mark on it the way it has marked us- by living up to the ideals this institution celebrates. ●

KELSEY BODE
PRINT EXECUTIVE EDITOR

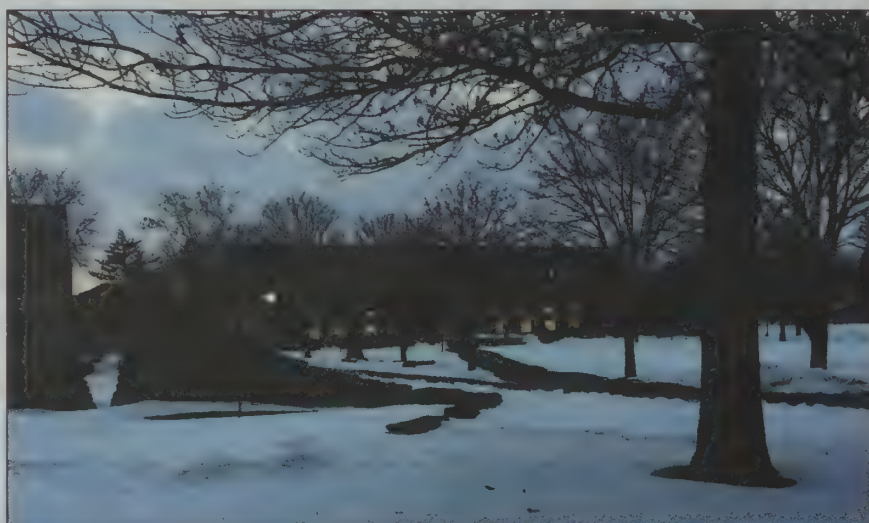


PHOTO BY
KELSEY BODE

March 21, the
Durick library is
blanketed in snow
and the sun has
almost set.

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Have a question, comment, concern, or story idea?

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We, the voice of St. Michael's College, strive to create high quality journalism collected on a foundation of integrity. We represent the pulse of our campus by facilitating a forum for informative, enlightening and thought-provoking conversation. Through in-depth reporting, accurate storytelling and exceptional visuals, The Defender aims to professionally and ethically deliver the truth to our diverse audience.

Speaking out about a sexual assault

By Madeline Hughes
Executive Online Editor

I noticed he was following me. I started walking faster, clutching my wallet and phone. I had two turns until I reached school – could make it. He was just another weirdo. Then it happened. I was speechless, in shock. I froze. There, he stood between me and the school door grabbing at me. I couldn't scream or push him away fast enough. He grabbed my chest. I pushed him away, he came back, a second time I pushed harder and kicked. Finally, he ran off. I got to the door, rang the bell, got into the school and ran up the stairs to my classroom.

I was studying abroad in Rabat, Morocco. Men catcalled more often and they got a tad more handsy than back home in the states, but I saw similar behavior in D.C., Boston and even walking down the street I grew up on. I was, like many women, accustomed to it. Until that man touched me – that was a step too far.

I didn't walk alone often, but on that hot Wednesday, I had forgotten my water bottle and decided to take

the quick 10 minutes to walk there and back. As I sat at a desk in my journalism class, with the teacher proceeding with the lesson, I started thinking of every reason it happened, only finding myself to blame.

Maybe I was wearing the wrong thing? I was wearing jeans, a tank top and a light jacket. I usually layered because I could wear a jacket and take it off when I got back to school to catch some sun on the rooftop terrace.

Maybe it's because I decided to wear makeup that day?

I reported it to everyone at my school. They gave me options and help, but I decided to only go forward to police if there was video evidence. It happened in front of my school where there was a camera someone would check before letting the person into the school. Of course there was no space left on the server, so my interaction was never recorded.

I went on with life as normal, never going forward to police because there was no evidence, they wouldn't believe me. Instead, I threw myself into the culture that was so beautiful. That Friday, I caught a train with friends to

Marrakesh, where we got to escape for the weekend. Lots of days I forgot about it. As the semester went on I traveled with friends around Morocco. After the semester finished I traveled through Europe for three weeks before boarding the plane home.

I thought going home would help me to completely forget about the attack and feel safer, because if this happened in America I would have reported it, right? Once the plane landed I realized it wasn't that easy. With every whisper on the street and man invading my space on public transportation, I continue to shudder and feel the terror of that day. When a guy walks too close to me on the street I get that bit of panic in my stomach. I continued to wear sunglasses and listen to music, a coping mechanism from Morocco, when I commuted through D.C. everyday on the metro over the summer for my internship. Multiple men had the audacity to tap me on the shoulder during my summer taking the metro and other subtle instances of sexual harassment happen often.

I find myself at odds over my decision not to go to the police over a year later. One of my best friends did when a similar situation occurred, but the officers just laughed it off. I told myself in America I would have reacted differently. I would have gone forward to police video evidence or not. Being back I can say it wouldn't have been so black and white. I couldn't be sure of myself over anything.

Here is what I know – it was not because of what I was wearing, what I was drinking, where I was going or

what I was doing. It was not because I was in another country where catcalling happens more often. This type of assault could happen anywhere, anytime. It could have happened while I was in high school, living with my parents, or at St. Mike's, living with the oversight of res life, or while I was abroad. It happened because the perpetrator wanted to take my power away from me, and make me and everyone else second guess my decisions. Unfortunately, that culture exists for women everywhere.

My story is unique to me and my circumstances, but similar acts happen all over the world, constantly. One in four women will be sexually assaulted during her life. However, that should never be a deterrent; we shouldn't have to live our lives in fear of what if.

This can happen to anyone, anywhere. I'm thankful for my friends who have left with me when I feel too uncomfortable at parties and who don't get mad when I accidentally bump into them while walking down the street and a man comes too close.

A few weeks ago we got an email from Public Safety. There had been a sexual assault on campus, and this was a timely notice to warn the public about the incident. It was a fresh reminder that yes indeed, this happens here, though it may not always be reported, or the top thing on our minds. It's important to know that it does happen here, and to try to change the status quo. ☺

Sexual Assault Survivor Resources

	CAMPUS-BASED	COMMUNITY-BASED
EMERGENCY SAFETY SUPPORT	Office of Public Safety 802.654.2914 (emergency) 802.654.2000 (24-hour services) A 24-hour emergency response and safety planning resource, including responding to sexual assault, coordinating safety plans, and providing crisis care and support services at the UVM Medical Center. Live Safe: Confidential support and resources during crises.	911 Colchester Police Department 802.264.5556
MEDICAL CARE	Bergeron Wellness Center 802.654.2234 Free and confidential medical care and support during office hours.	UVM Medical Center 802.847.0000 Comprehensive and confidential medical care, with access to a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), including evidence collection, sexually transmitted infection testing/treatment, and injury triage, and all other hospital resources.
EMOTIONAL & MENTAL HEALTH CARE	Bergeron Wellness Center 802.654.2234 Free and confidential short-term and crisis counseling available during office hours.	HOPE Works 802.863.1236 or 800.489.7273 (24-hour hotline) Free anonymous or confidential 24-hour support, information, referrals, and advocacy for all community members of all genders and sexual orientations. Women Helping Battered Women 802.658.1996 Free confidential hotline for victims and survivors of domestic abuse, as well as family members, friends, and other service providers, and concerned community members seeking support and information about domestic abuse. SafeSpace at Pride Center of VT 802.863.0003 Free and confidential information, support, referrals, and advocacy for LGBTQ survivors.
SPIRITUAL CARE	Clergy in Edmundite Campus Ministry 802.654.2333 Confidential counseling and support for individuals of all faiths and beliefs.	Interfaith Directory smcvt.edu/on-campus/campus-ministry/interfaith-directory An online directory of local churches and religious congregations.
REPORTING	Student Life 802.654.2566 Ask to speak with the on-call Assistant Dean Public Safety 802.654.2374 Campus Investigator RJ Vallie 802.654.2864 (direct) rvallie@smcvt.edu Title IX Coordinator Michael New, V.P. for Human Resources 802.654.2635 mnew@smcvt.edu	Colchester Police Department 802.264.5556 CUSI (Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations) 802.652.6800 An investigation may be handled by a uniformed officer, a plain-clothed detective, or both with support from Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations (CUSI).

CONFIDENTIAL

What defines sexual assaults?

Any sexual act done without the consent of both parties. People of all gender identities and sexualities can be victims of sexual assault.

Forcible Sexual Assault:

Penetration without consent

Nonforcible Sexual Assault:

Incest or statutory rape committed with no force.

Forcible Fondling:

Any touching of private body parts with sexual gratification that is done without consent.

What is consent?

An informed, voluntary and clearly established act where both parties are capable to consent, either of age or of mental capacity.

How long do students have to report a sexual assault?

A sexual assault that occurs at St. Michael's College can be brought to attention of the administration at any point during the student's time at St. Michael's. The statute of limitations in Vermont is six years to prosecute a sexual assault perpetrator.

Apocalypse SMC:

Imagining a world without St. Michael's

By Jonathan Norton
Opinion Editor

The year is 2027.

A lone tumbleweed rolls across what was once the quad of St. Michael's College, which was long ago repurposed as a parking lot. Many of the brick buildings that once made up campus have been knocked down, or bought out by the highest bidder. The Hoehl Welcome Center, which once served as the dormat of the college, has since been turned into a very popular Chipotle restaurant, staffed mostly by former St. Michael's students. To save on paper, napkins are made entirely out of the alumni's now useless degrees, which are now solely used to wipe off that bit of sour cream that fell on your chin.

What could have happened to create such a nightmarish scenario? Well, it's the reality of life when a college shuts its doors for good. "But wait!" I hear you say, "Surely my school would never shut down!" Alas, you are not the first

to speak these hopeful words. Simply ask a student of the former Burlington College, which collapsed last year under the weight of insurmountable debt. Current students were forced to transfer to a different school, where oftentimes many of their hard-earned credits amounted to zilch. Alumni also weren't unscathed by the shutting down of their old school, as degrees from colleges that shut down often aren't viewed as particularly valid by many employers. Though St. Michael's has managed to stay afloat thus far, its multi-million dollar deficit combined with the closing of North Campus and

the letting go of multiple teachers doesn't exactly inspire confidence in its ability to stay alive in the long-term.

"Well," you retort, a little more nervously this time, "Even if that does happen, at least I won't have to pay back all those loans, right? Right?" Wrong. According to consumerfinance.org, you will most likely be responsible for paying back all of your private and federal loans, regardless of whether or not you received your degree. In other words, you just spent thousands upon thousands of dollars to go to school for how to permanently put yourself in debt.

Let us return to the wasteland that is St. Michael's 2027. A tattered Mike the Knight costume rests half-buried in what once was the Word Garden, where students would gather to make funny phrases with their friends and relax on a sunny day. Now, it's little more than a pile of rubble, with only the faded remains of a rock that reads "Hope" standing testament to its former glory. And over by the 300's field, where once there were exciting games to be played and beers to be drank, now exists as a retirement community for the elderly on a budget. Truly, a sad sight to behold.

So what was the cause of this tragic loss? Some point their fingers to the cutting of several LSC's, others to an oversight which caused the administration to accidentally accept 2,137 incoming freshman in 2019. Whatever the cause, those mourning their lost futures come to a lone tombstone resting on the library lawn that reads, "Here lies St. Michael's College, 1904 - 2024." ☹



ILLUSTRATION BY LIAM RADEMACHER



TRADITIONAL / VEGETARIAN / GOURMET

LEONARDO'S BASICS

SAUCE & CHEESE PIZZA

SAUCES

Zesty Tomato
Olive Oil Garlic
Pesto Pine Nut
Thai Peanut
Barbecue

CRUSTS

Hand Tossed Traditional
Extra Thin or Thick
White
Certified Organic Wheat
MED ADD .50 LG ADD .75
Gluten Free MED ONLY ADD \$3.50



PIZZA TOPPINGS

Italian Pepperoni
Hot Italian Sausage
Fresh Ground Western Beef
Cob Smoked Bacon
Marinated Chicken Breast
New England Baked Ham
Pulled Pork
Anchovy Filets
Sliced Plum Tomatoes
Freshly Cut Broccoli
Sliced White Mushrooms
Fresh Green Spinach
Sliced Red Onions
Shredded Potatoes
Sliced Green Peppers
Sliced Brussels Sprouts
Marinated Sun Dried Tomatoes

Sliced Jalapeno Peppers
Pepperoni Peppers
Roasted Red Peppers
Chopped Garlic
California Black Olives
Sweet Hawaiian Pineapple
Dried Cranberries
Marinated Artichoke Hearts
Chopped Pecans
Italian Gorgonzola Cheese
Greek Feta Cheese
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Flavorful Four Cheese Blend
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REGULAR / BBQ / BUFFALO / THAI

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DOUBLE DOUBLE (4 lb) \$26.15

TRADITIONAL

MED \$15.10
LG \$20.35

AMANDA'S SIX FEET UNDER

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Chopped Garlic, Italian Pepperoni, Sliced Red Onions, Cob Smoked Bacon, Hot Italian Sausage

HAWAIIAN ISLAND DELIGHT

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, New England Baked Ham, Cob Smoked Bacon, Freshly Cut Broccoli and Sweet Hawaiian Pineapple

ROASTED CHICKEN BBQ

Barbecue Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Marinated Chicken Breast, Sliced Red Onions, White Mushrooms, Roasted Red Peppers with Mesquite Spices

MEAT LOVER'S REVENGE

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Italian Pepperoni, Hot Italian Sausage, Ground Western Beef and New England Baked Ham

CLASSIC PEPPERONI DELUXE

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Italian Pepperoni, New England Baked Ham, Sliced Red Onions, Green Peppers and White Mushrooms

TEXAS HOT BUFFALO CHICKEN

Zesty Tomato Texas Hot Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Spicy Chicken Breast, Sliced Red Onions with Gorgonzola Cheeses

NICOLE'S BACON CHEESEBURGER PARADISE

Honey Barbecue Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Sliced Red Onions, Extra Ground Beef, Cob Smoked Bacon, Sprinkles of Gorgonzola Cheese

LEONARDO'S WORKS

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Italian Pepperoni, New England Baked Ham, Hot Italian Sausage, Freshly Cut Broccoli, White Mushrooms, Red Onions, Green Peppers and California Black Olives

INSPIRED VEGETARIAN

MED \$15.10
LG \$20.35

WHERE'S WALDORF?

Olive Oil Garlic Sauce, Four Cheese Blend, Sliced Brussels Sprouts, Dried Cranberries and Chopped Pecans

SMOKIN' GOUDA

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Chopped Garlic, Fresh Basil, Sliced Red Onions, Pepperoni Peppers with Smoked Gouda Cheese

EXOTIC GREEK ISLAND

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Chopped Garlic, Sliced Red Onions, Fresh Spinach, Plum Tomatoes and California Black Olives with Greek Feta Cheese

VEGETARIAN WORKS

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Fresh Spinach, Broccoli, White Mushrooms, Green Peppers, Red Onions, Plum Tomatoes and California Black Olives

GORGONZOLA GOURMET

Olive Oil Garlic Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Fresh Spinach, Plum Tomatoes, Marinated Artichoke Hearts with Gorgonzola Cheese

GOAT CHEESE HONEY PIE

Olive Oil Garlic Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Freshly Sliced Mushrooms, Freshly Sliced Red Onions, Thyme, Crumbled Goat Cheese with Drizzled Honey

VEGAN SALVATION

Olive Oil Garlic Sauce, Vegan Cheese, Fresh Spinach, Sliced Red Onions, White Mushrooms, Plum Tomatoes, Black Olives

SIGNATURE GOURMET

MED \$15.10
LG \$20.35

LA MIEUX BRUSSELS

Honey Barbecue Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Sliced Brussel Sprouts, Sliced Red Onions, Cob Smoked Bacon, Sprinkles of Gorgonzola Cheese

PULLED PORK PEPPADAW

Tomato Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Pepperoni Peppers, Pulled Pork with Crumbled Goat Cheese

THAI CHICKEN

Thai Peanut Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Marinated Chicken Breast, Sliced White Mushrooms, Red Onions, Green Bell Peppers and Freshly Cut Broccoli

BASIL PESTO CHICKEN

Basil Pesto Nut Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Marinated Chicken Breast, Roasted Red Peppers, Sun Dried Tomatoes, Sliced Red Onions with Gorgonzola Cheese

ROASTED MAINE POTATO

Olive Oil Garlic Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Fresh Spinach, Sliced Red Onions, Shredded Potatoes, Smoked Bacon, Rosemary and Feta Cheese

FENNEL SAUSAGE GOURMET

Olive Oil Garlic Sauce, Cheddar/Mozzarella Cheese, Hot Italian Sausage, Fennel, Sliced Red Onions, Fresh Spinach with Gorgonzola Cheese

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Knights receive national recognition for Hope Happens Here

By Lance Reynolds
News/Sports Editor

In October 2015 at a St. Michael's women's volleyball home game, Danny Divis and Justin McKenzie, juniors on the men's ice hockey team, found their first opportunity to get their message out: "Hope Happens Here."

A year-and-a-half later, Divis and McKenzie continue to get their message across the St. Michael's campus and the surrounding community through presentations at local high schools and universities -- including UVM -- and through Mental Health Awareness events at St. Michael's sports games. Their organization Hope Happens Here (HHH), now has the opportunity to nationally promote mental health awareness and wellness among college students, specifically student-athletes.

On Friday, April 7, at the Aon Grand Ballroom in Chicago, Ill., the two seniors heard their names announced as co-winners of the Hockey Humanitarian Award, which is given out annually to a collegiate hockey student-athlete(s) who makes the most notable contributions to their community. The award - one of the premier awards in all of college hockey - grants HHH a total of \$3,000, which Divis and McKenzie will donate to To Write Love On Her Arms, a nonprofit organization aiming to offer hope for victims of addiction, depression, self-injury, and thoughts of suicide.

The Hockey Humanitarian Award committee considers all NCAA hockey

divisions for the award, instead of strictly focusing on Division I.

"It's tough to honestly put words to -- it really hasn't set in yet," McKenzie said. "When we got the trophy we went out to dinner with the board and looking at the trophy was the first time where it was like: 'Woah, this is pretty crazy.' This is one of the biggest awards in college hockey, and the fact that they thought we would be on that level is surreal."

Athletic Director Chris Kenny said that the award is a testament to how St. Michael's embraces holistic education and development of student-athletes.

"It is a tremendous honor for those guys, for their program, for St. Michael's College athletics, and for the college as a whole," Kenny said. "The way that these guys were able to energize this initiative and to have the support of so many along the way is a great tribute to the college."

Divis and McKenzie were nominees along with players from University of Notre Dame, Merrimack College, Penn State University, and Quinnipiac University.

"A few of [the nominees] have actually contacted us congratulating us which is pretty cool," McKenzie said. "We've known for a couple of weeks, so it was pretty tough to keep it a secret."

According to St. Michael's Athletics, Divis and McKenzie are the first ever co-recipients and the first Purple Knights to be awarded with the Hockey Humanitarian Award. They join John Flint, '03, and Alex Higgins, '11, as the only St. Michael's representatives to receive



PHOTO COURTESY SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE INSTAGRAM

Justin McKenzie, '17, (left), and Danny Divis, '17, pose with the Hockey Humanitarian Award in Chicago.

finalist consideration for the award.

Another treat awaited Divis and McKenzie on Saturday night, as the two sat ten rows from the ice during the NCAA Division I Championship tilt between Minnesota-Duluth and Denver. In the second period of the contest, Divis and McKenzie were interviewed on the United Center's jumbotron. During the third period, the two made their ESPN debuts when they were interviewed by the highly-acclaimed John Buccigross and former NHL player and coach Barry Melrose.

McKenzie said he never imagined that HHH would receive the amount of recognition that it has gotten since its first event back in Fall Semester '15.

"For our first event, we had a poster board that we drew on with sharpie, but

now we are getting all of this recognition," he said. "The event was thrown together at the very last minute, and to see where it's gone - we raised around \$850 last year - with the award, our final numbers will be \$8,000-\$9,000."

With the co-creators graduating in May, McKenzie believes that HHH is in good hands, as he and Divis have already appointed a seven-person leadership board for next year.

"The small campus vibe, the fact that we can have a personal relationship with our AD Chris Kenny helps out so much, and just having an embracing, supportive community," he said. "We really couldn't have done it without the St. Mike's community." ●

Spring sports versus mother nature

By Shannon Kelley
Staff Writer

This year, the majority of spring sport training at St. Michael's has been done indoors. The snow has moved most practices from outdoor fields to the Tarrant gym, especially in February and March. Student athletes claim being cooped up inside for practices has had an impact on the teams' performances as they try to move outside and this negatively affects their abilities.

"Being inside has restricted us as a team. A very important aspect of lacrosse is the spacing on the field especially for the offense. When we have to practice in Tarrant the smaller court space forces us to adjust our spacing. It can make it difficult to get a good feel for what we want our spacing to be on a full size field," said Patch Ryan, '18, a player for

the men's lacrosse team.

Being the farthest team north in the NE10 conference, the weather can impact student athlete's abilities to perform their best. Since spring sports teams may not get much outside practice on their designated fields, the transition from the Tarrant gym to outside has been difficult. Learning how to space yourself out and set up for a play is a lot different when done in a smaller setting. Once the players get outside it is hard to know exactly where they should be on the larger field.

"We can get away with lazy habits in Tarrant because the offense is so constricted with their spacing but when we get on the turf and on a full size field these lazy habits are exposed," said Ryan, expressing that he and his teammates often have a harder time adjusting to the larger field.

The turf has definitely been a blessing

for the lacrosse team because it is much easier to plow off the snow. However, other teams have not been able to make it outside since the fields and courts are still covered. The softball team has not been able to get outside since before Christmas break, with the exception of the Florida spring break training camp.

"Along with the difficulty that comes with having to train inside, the harsh weather has caused games to be cancelled and postponed. Not having a turf field for softball has been causing us to postpone all home games and away games so far," said Fallon Tierney, '19, a player for the softball team.

Cancelled games due to bad weather also impact players' performances. When games get cancelled they have to be made up, sometimes forcing student athletes to have many games in a short period of time.

"We have had a few cancellations due to snow or due to the anticipation of snow. Being on the road is hard because we want to keep the safety of the team in mind and that goes for playing in some really harsh conditions as well. It can get tough when we aren't sure if we will be able to play but we plan for whatever may come our way," said Alex Vincent, '19, a women's lacrosse team player.

"In the end, after the snow is gone, we are all better for it because we can really appreciate the warmer weather and how much more freedom we have when we play in it," Vincent said. ●

the Art of...



Ikebana

Photo Column by Angela McParland
Design Editor

With flowers and branches grown and picked in her front yard, Michiko Oishi gives new life to flowers in an art discipline known as Ikebana, or Japanese flower arrangement.

Oishi, also a Japanese teacher at Champlain college and a Koto player, started arranging flowers for Ikebana when she came to Vermont. Since then she has taught Ikebana and has done presentations at Champlain College and also most recently at the *Matsuri* festival held this year in the Ross Sports Center at St. Michael's College on Sunday, Mar. 26.

"It's another form of expression," Oishi says about Ikebana, also men-

tioning how it relaxes her particularly if she's stressed or unhappy.

Ikebana translates roughly to "giving life to flowers," containing the characters for life and flower and dates back to 7th century Japan when it was used as an altar offering. Ikebana was most popular in the 16th century in Buddhism and has since spread globally as an art form.

Currently, Ikebana is a spiritual art form expressing the mixture of nature and humanity. Using nature as the medium, an Ikebana artist crafts their arrangement with carefully selected flowers and branches, creating simplistic shapes and lines. ●